**St. George’s of Forest Hill Anglican Church, Kitchener, Ontario**

**Parish Council Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022 @ 7:30 pm**

**In person**

**Chair:** Fr. Stephen **Secretary:** Greg Butler

**Present**: Fr Stephen, Tim Goodison, Adriana Cronin, Murray Gamble, Nelson Cuthbert, Catherine Carlson, Fr Craig, Ericka Babb, Susan Hipperson, Jim Fox, Deb Barclay, Greg Butler

**Regrets:** Valerie Clarke, Cindy Kellett, Dulcie Tapp, MaryLynn Forrest, Ann-Marie Shaw

1. **Prayer & Call to Order** Stephen
   1. Presentation: (15min)

1. **Approval of Current Agenda** Stephen (5 min)

BIRT the Agenda for this meeting of Parish Council be accepted as presented.

Moved: Catherine Carlson Seconded: Jim Fox Carried

1. **Acceptance of Previous Minutes**

BIRT the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated March 22, 2022 be accepted as presented. (5 min)

Moved: Greg Butler Seconded: Ericka Babb Carried

1. **Financial Report**  Anne (10 min)

March donations were about $1,000 better than budget, and YTD revenue is now only $1,000 below budget, so we are catching up since January which was $3,000 below budget. Gas expenses have been over budget, as a result of colder than expected temperatures and price increases. In total, we are worse than budget YTD by about $1,500.

Moved: Ericka Babb Seconded: Greg Butler Carried

1. **Rector’s Report –** (15 min)
   1. Easter Season Results
   2. Dedication May 15 @ 10AM
   3. Synod and Canon Laws

There will be a deanery meeting on May 11th. Anyone interested in the meeting, please contact Valerie in the office. Anyone can attend.

Synod starts Sunday, May 15th @ 5:30PM at the cathedral.

Moved: Nelson Cuthbert Seconded: Catherine Carlson Carried

1. **Wardens’ Reports** 
   1. Rector’s Warden’s Report (x2) (10min)

Greg: First Sunday back in a month and a half. Watching via Live Stream, all of the services looked good. “Normal” seating arrangement is nice to see.

I was unable to attend the Social Justice committee this past weekend. Hopefully, next time, I will be able to speak on this.

Tim: From the attendance side of things, @ 8:15 AM, we’re averaging just over 20. At the 10 AM, we’re doing quite well.

Also, just wanted to thank Fr. Stephen and Fr. Craig for the 10 services that they did throughout the Easter week. It was an amazing job.

* 1. People’s Warden’s report (x2) (10min)

Catherine: I’m going to piggy-back on the services a little bit. Our average is between 68 – 70 parishioners. Most are comfortable with sitting in every pew. We still have some seating for those that need a little space.

Wednesday morning Live Stream, we have 35 watching. There are some parishioners that want to return to the old tradition of having it in the chapel, but the Live Stream has become an important part of evangelizing. This is going to require some shift or change. We may be looking at introducing an evening service to support those needs.

Atmosphere (Social) Committee:

We’ve renamed the Atmosphere committee to the Social Committee due to people not understanding what we were about. The first thing that’s been taken on is the coffee/food for the dedication on May 15th. We will be leveraging Survey Monkey to look at things that the parish is interested in doing. We will also be looking at doing a picnic where people can bring their own food.

John Ryrie and I have met to discuss the Dream Catcher bursary and we have a clear direction of where to go.

We’ve received feedback from the government on the clean drinking water and it’s posted on the bulletin board.

The bulletin board has also been cleaned up and we now have some articles relating to the homeless situation at Victoria / Weber.

Moved: Ericka Babb Seconded: Nelson Cuthbert Carried

1. **Committee Reports:** 
   1. Communications – Report and Motions

* There will be a quarterly report going into the bulletin this coming Sunday
* We will be updating the welcome booklet
* Updates to the photo/contact directory
* The Welcome Booklet and photo/contact directory will be done in-house
* Community Outreach will be increasing towards the fall
* Options being explored and kept within the approved budget that communication has to work with. More information to follow as information starts to surface.

Moved: Jim Fox Seconded: Debra Barclay Carried

* 1. Outreach - Report and Motions
* Review previous Winter initiatives:
  + Ray of Hope (warm blankets)
  + YWKW (socks / underwear drive)
    - 450 pairs of socks
    - 91 underwear
  + Winston Park (Nighties, socks, bras)
    - 46 Nighties
  + Freeport (crocheted hearts)
* Lenten season:
  + PWDRDF Coin holders
  + St. Johns Kitchen (financial donations)
* On the horizon:
  + Mental Health guest speaker
    - Spots for 25 parishioners
    - Require a minimum of 17 to run it
* Donations ($1,858):
  + Foster Children program $936
  + Donations for St. Monica’s Place $250
  + Red Cross for Ukraine $250

Moved: Debra Barclay Seconded: Adriana Cronin Carried

* 1. Building and Property Report and Recommendations
* Number of projects on the go
  + Rear stairs – what can we do with it
    - Minor repairs coming
  + New Rectory Deck
  + Waterproofing of “Weeping Wall” and other foundational walls
  + Replacement of the John Deere shed or potentially replacing the door
  + Drywall repairs
* Spring Cleanup date, scheduled for Saturday, May 28th.

Moved: Murray Gamble Seconded: Catherine Carlson Carried

* 1. Livestream (10min) – Summer Schedule
* Numbers jump from week to week
* Easter week:
  + Palm Sunday: 91
  + Monday / Tuesday: weren’t streamed
  + Wednesday: 50
  + Thursday: 51
  + Friday 94
  + Saturday: 71
  + Easter Sunday: 129
  + Easter Children’s Video: 50
* We need to get some volunteers for Live Streaming for the summer. Some people have approached, but declined

Moved: Murray Gamble Seconded: Catherine Carlson Carried

* 1. Facebook/website (10min)
* Facebook: We’ve had over 72,000 likes, hits or viewings
* TikTok / Google: Over 5,000 likes, hits, viewings
  + Of that, 153 that went to our website for additional information
  + Some that made phone calls
  + 60 – 70 for directions to our church
  1. Social Justice Report and Recommendations

Three initiatives are underway:

1. Put tiny houses in the corner lot where they are tenting which could be moved when required (due to zoning)
2. To please put porta-potties on site.
3. Asking the provincial government to support opposition for private healthcare hospitals.
   1. Refugee Committee:

Over the last 6 years, the committee (which is made up of 13 churches in the deanery) has sponsored 6 families; 12 adults, 15 children. The committee has invested $104,485 since 2015. We are now prepared to secure the next family. We need to raise $28,000 to land and secure them. The committee hopes to select the family between May and July. They want to focus on women who are supporting single families. The arrival time would be between August and October. This committee is looking for volunteers to join this committee. Please contact John Ryrie if interested.

1. **New Business:**

Nothing to report

1. **The Grace**